

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03

SWF-02 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11

LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00

CIEP-03 CEA-02 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-07 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 L-03 /205 R

DRAFTED BY IO/CMD:RHINES:

APPROVED BY EB/TT/MA:RBANK

EB/GCP:HCBLACK

L/EB:FWILLIS

MARAD:AARMSTRONG

USCG:DHINTZE

----- 085340

P R 022228Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING: CONTAINER STANDARDS

REF: GENEVA 4991

1. USG CONCURS IN ASSESSMENT BY DELEGATION THAT US
INTERESTS WOULD LIKELY BE MUCH BETTER SERVED BY USE OF
COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING TO REVIEW REPORT OF EXPERT GROUP
THAN AD HOC GROUP OF 48. DELEGATION SHOULD THEREFORE
PURSUE ITS INTENTION OF SEEKING COMMITTEE'S SUPPORT FOR
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SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL.

2. TWO OBJECTIONS OF TECHNICAL NATURE REMAIN WITH REGARD
SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSAL:

(A) ECOSOC DECISION REQUESTING UNCTAD SEC GEN TO CON-
VENE AD HOC GROUP "AS ENVISAGED IN ITS RES 1742 (LIV)"
CAN ONLY BE MODIFIED BY ECOSOC, NOT BY UNCTAD TRADE AND
DEVELOPMENT BOARD. THEREFORE ACTION BY COMMITTEE ON
SHIPPING SHOULD BE IN TERMS OF ASKING TDB TO RECOMMEND
DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENT TO ECOSOC. (ECOSOC WILL REVIEW TDB
REPORT AT ITS RESUMED FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION THIS FALL.)

(B) COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING MAY NOT REPORT DIRECTLY TO
ECOSOC AND DELEGATION SHOULD NOT SUPPORT SUCH A PROPOSAL.

3. RE PARA 4, REFTEL, WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT PLENARY OF
COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING WOULD CARRY OUT THOROUGH REVIEW OF
RESULTS OF WORK OF ITS SESSIONAL COMMITTEE, BUT THIS
DOES NOT WEAKEN ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MOVING LOCUS OF RE-
VIEW OF CONTAINER STANDARDS QUESTION AWAY FROM AD
HOC GROUP OF 48.

4. RE PARA 5, REFTEL, WE NOTE THAT IMCO NOT INCLUDED
AMONG "INTERESTED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS" MENTIONED
EXPLICITLY IN SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT. DELEGATION SHOULD
MAKE STRONG EFFORT TO HAVE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO IMCO
INCLUDED. WE ALSO AGREE WITH DELEGATION'S POINT THAT
RECOGNIZED EXPERTISE SHOULD BE PRINCIPAL FACTOR AND
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION SECONDARY, ALTHOUGH LDC'S PRE-
SUMABLY WILL RESIST SPELLING THIS OUT. KISSINGER

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